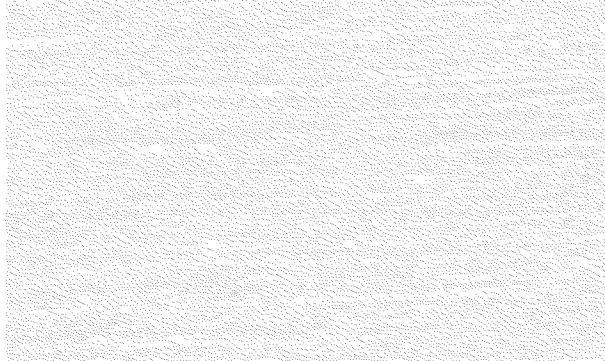


To: Smith, Paula[Smith.Paula@epa.gov]
Cc: Jenkins, Laura Flynn[Jenkins.Laura@epa.gov]
From: Russo, Rebecca
Sent: Thur 8/13/2015 12:58:31 AM
Subject: RE: Draft Language for R8 All Hands Memo



Paula,

This question has come up from several EPA staff around the Region. What do you think of sending something like this out to all staff?

Laura – excellent draft. Thanks!

Thanks,

Rebecca

Rebecca A. Russo

Region 8 Congressional and Intergovernmental Liaison

Office: 303-312-6757

Cell: 303-204-1930

From: Jenkins, Laura Flynn
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 6:54 PM
To: Russo, Rebecca
Subject: Draft Language for R8 All Hands Memo

Below is a draft for consideration.

Laura Jenkins

Media Officer

USEPA-Region 8

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Yesterday, EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy held a press conference in Durango, CO related to the release of waste water from the Gold King mine. She also met with community members and state, local, and tribal officials; and today will visit response efforts in Farmington, NM.

Public interest is high and we've been getting a lot of questions from the public about the mine response. The most up-to-date information is available on our website, which I encourage you to share with those requesting information:

<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine>

The following language may also be useful to those who need to communicate with the public:

EPA is working diligently to address the Gold King Mine release and help affected communities. Our mission is to protect human health and the environment and we want to assure you that we are working with our partners to expedite the review of data and return to normalcy in terms of using these rivers.

We are also committed to understanding what happened in this event and to learn from it. We have ceased field investigation work at mines unless there is imminent risk and are also initiating an independent assessment to examine the factors that led to last week's incident. Based on the outcome from that assessment, we will determine what actions may be necessary to avoid similar incidents at other sites.